

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/29/2010 has been entered.

Examiner's Amendment

An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Edwin Merkel on 12/11/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1, line 3, delete "being" and insert --is-- therefor.

Claim 1, line 7, after "group" and before "." insert --wherein the tissue-reactive functional group is selected from the group consisting of imido ester, p-nitrophenyl carbonate, N-hydroxysuccinimide ester, epoxide, isocyanate, acrylate, vinyl sulfone, orthopyridyl-disulfide, maleimide, aldehyde and iodoacetamide"--.

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Cancel claim 4.

Claim 5, line 1, delete "Claim 4" and insert –Claim 1—therefor.

Cancel claim 6.

Cancel claim 7.

Claim 19, line 3, after "N-hydroxysuccinimide" and before "to" insert –ester--.

Cancel claim 20.

Cancel claim 21.

Claim 32, lines 1-2, delete "core comprises a polymeric material" and insert –naturally occurring or synthetic polymer material is"—therefor.

Claim 33, lines 1-2, delete "core comprises a polymeric material" and insert –naturally occurring or synthetic polymer material is"—therefor.

Claim 64, line 4, after ",", and before "prevent" insert –or--.

Claim 64, line 4, delete ", or deliver a drug or other therapeutic agent".

Claim 65, line 3, delete "Claim 45" and insert –Claim 31--.

Claim 66, line 4, after ",", and before "prevent" insert –or--.

Claim 66, line 4, delete ", or deliver a drug or other therapeutic agent".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PAUL DICKINSON whose telephone number is (571)270-3499. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 9:00am-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Hartley can be reached on 571-272-0616. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael G. Hartley/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1618

Paul Dickinson
Examiner
AU 1618

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